

Village of Godfrey  
Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting  
February 9, 2018  
Minutes

Members Present: Chairman Mike Walters, Trustee Eldon "Twirp" Williams, Trustee Karen McAtee, Norma Glazebrook, Max Heinz, Jess Woodman, Mark Lorch, Craig Rathgeb, Rob Hasse, Director of Maintenance -Jim Lewis, Recreation Supervisor- Jessica Wiedman, Administrative Assistant -Angela Bosoluke

Members Absent: Ford Green

Guest: Nancy Orrill, University of IL Extension Master Gardeners

Chairman Walters asked for public comment – no comment

Chairman Walters called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.. He asked for a motion to approve the January 12, 2018 meeting minutes as written, Karen McAtee made motion to approve and Craig Rathgeb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Nancy Orrill, introduced herself as the Project Leader of the Master Gardener's University of IL Extension at Homer Adams Park. She stated the Master Gardener program has not had a budget from the State of Illinois for the last several years and have had to pay many expenses out of pocket to keep the garden looking nice. She thanked the Park committee for donating \$800 last year for the rental of a backhoe to haul mulch to the garden and to cover the cost of mulch. She continued the Village set up an account for the Garden program and she would get approval from Kimberly prior to purchases made. She stated the gardeners have conducted fundraisers in the past to raise their own money, such as a plant sale at St. Louis Bread Company and sales of calendars. She continued the plant sale raised \$800, and all of the monies raised remain here at the Homer Adams garden. She stated the University of Illinois extension program is comprised of three counties; Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair and monies are received from the counties but she had just been recently notified that St. Clair County would not be giving any monies this year. She continued two years ago their unit received \$40,000, last year received \$10,050 and nothing this year. She requested a donation from the Parks Department of \$1000 this year to help offset costs noting the vegetables grown in the garden are donated to the food pantry. She stated there are 10 members of the garden and half of the garden is ornamental and the other half is fruits and vegetables. Mike Walters suggested contacting Madison County for any grant opportunities and Nancy replied there are 8 gardens throughout Madison County and Mike suggested letting him know when she submits a request to the County and he would talk with some of the grant committee members at the County level. She stated she is required to submit an annual budget to the University of IL and this year the budgeted amount is \$2000 and said she will be lucky to receive \$200. Max Heinz suggested sending a letter of request to the Knights of Columbus for a donation and instructed Nancy to give the letter to him to present. Rob Hasse made a motion to recommend to the Village Board to give \$1000 to the Master Gardener's program for necessary supplies incurred to operate the garden at Homer Adams Park. Craig Rathgeb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Jessica Wiedman reported that she, Jim Lewis, Pam Whisler, and Rich Beran, Village Engineer have been working on the PEP Grant together. She stated the PEP Grant is for approximately \$90,000 and they are looking to update the restroom facility at Homer Adams Park to ADA compliance. She stated Jim Lewis & Pam Whisler worked together to establish bid requirements for retrofitting the existing building to ADA compliance and bids for demolishing and purchasing a new building. The bids received for demolishing and purchase of a new building were between \$250,000 - \$300,000 and to retrofit the building by opening the walls and making ADA compliant was \$45,000. She stated the Village Board chose to proceed with the retrofit of the existing building and since the PEP Grant funds are approximately \$90,000 she, the Mayor, and Jim Lewis decided to use the remaining approximate \$45,000 for updating the fencing on Fields #3 & #5. She continued that last fall Kimberly Caughran had actually gone out for bids for replacement of the fencing on these fields and only received one bid. She stated she had gotten a couple of recent quotes for the fencing replacement and the cost is near \$40,000. We are looking at proceeding with the fencing and purchase of needed recreation equipment which is used throughout the year. Norma Glazebrook commented that extra costs always seem to arise when doing a project of this size so extra funds should be set aside for overages on the building retrofit. Karen McAtee asked if money could be held and if so how long and Jessica replied the grant timeline is 4-5 months and all monies spent must be listed prior to receiving the grant. Twirp Williams

goals have been repaired. Also, next week the crew will begin pouring concrete pads by the baseball bleachers to meet ADA requirements.

Jessica Wiedman reported the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Daddy Daughter Dance will be held tomorrow, Saturday, February 10, 2018 at Bluff City Grill with a total of 408 registered participants; 278 from Godfrey and 130 from Alton. She stated the event will be held from 6-8:30 pm and invited any board members to attend. Baseball registrations are currently being accepted and Little League divisions will continue through end of February with t-ball and pitching machine registrations being accepted through mid-March. She continued cheerleading clinic began last Saturday with a total of 53 participants and rookie basketball ends tomorrow with a child vs coach game. She reported registrations are also being taken for the following programs: 4X4 volleyball, rookie soccer, hit, pitch & run competition and tennis. Trustee Williams asked why the dance is not held in Godfrey and Jessica stated instead of doing the event for two nights due to the overwhelming numbers and not to compete with the surrounding areas we have decided to partner with Alton and share the costs. Discussion was held regarding the request to host a Godfrey dance at Knights of Columbus hall and decision was made to consider this option for next year's event.

Jessica Wiedman reported there is still no Director of Parks and Recreation at this time and hopefully this position will be filled soon. She stated Jim Lewis has been assigned the parks portion of the Director's job and Angela Bosoluke and she have been busy keeping up with the planning and preparation for the upcoming events and daily operations. She continued one issue which will need to be addressed soon is the vandalism which occurred to the jumping pillow which will be needed by the Arbor Day event in April. She stated she and Pam Whisler, Clerk have been trying to contact the manufacturer of the pillow regarding possible repairs. She continued she has a meeting later today with an Eagle Scout regarding a proposed project in the park with an old refurbished scoreboard to install at the ball park.

Karen McAtee reported the Parks Director hiring committee is interviewing 7 applicants next Tuesday and Wednesday from the 16 applications received for this position.

At 9:46 am, Craig Rathgeb made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Karen McAtee seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.